

# \* Haunted by the ghost of Christmas Presents?

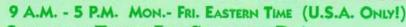


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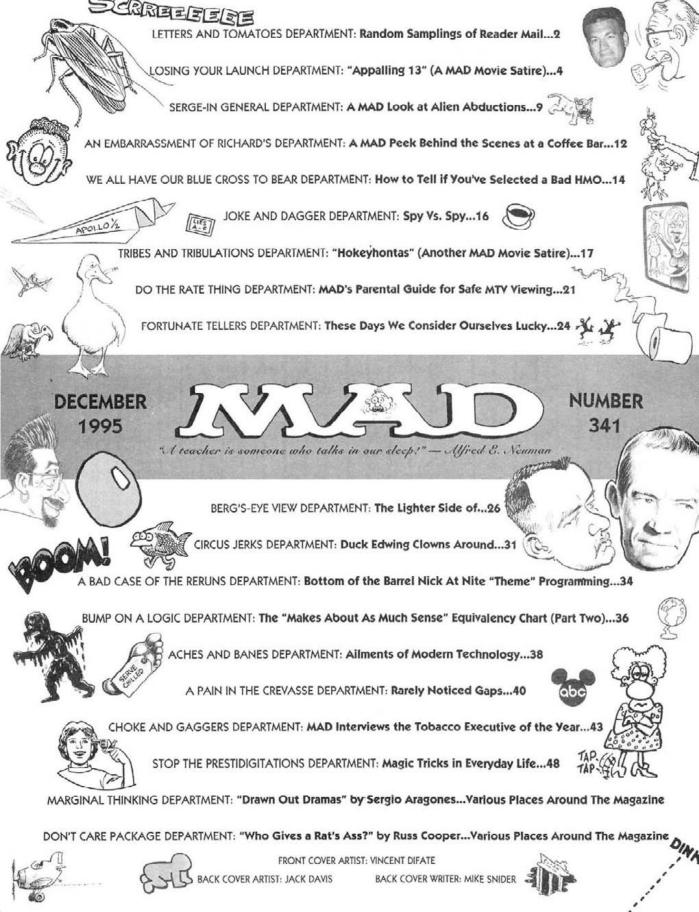
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# MAID

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## **ROCK AND WRONG**

I wanted to alert you to a minor mistake in #338's "Rock & Roll Closeups." The mandolin player in R.E.M. is Peter Buck. Bill Berry (the one with the bushy eyebrows) plays the drums, not the mandolin. Mike Mills (pictured playing the drums) actually plays the guitar. So, now you know!

Elissa Braitman Manhattan Beach, CA

We apologize for the error, especially since, as everyone knows, the "M" in K.E.M. stands for "mandolin." Actually, we took another look at the Sam Viviano-illustrated article and that IS Mike Mills on bass, Bill Berry on drums and Peter Buck on the mandolin...turns out that before he began drawing this article, Sam was just sippin' too much of the monkey juice! —Ed.

In MAD #338 you had an article entitled "Breaking Down the MTV Generation." I understand that there are some imbeciles out there who can't discern the "Beauty and the Beast" motif used in the "I'd Do Anything for Love (But I Won't Do That)" video. Your figure of 4.2% is probably about right. The real mistake you made was in printing Meat Loaf's name. Any of his fans (including myself) will tell you that Meat Loaf is two words! By the way, Meat hates it when his name is misprinted. He also has a short temper, so perhaps you should make a short and sweet apology to Meat Loaf before he comes over and knocks out the rest of Alfred E. Neuman's teeth!

Melissa Stephens Palestine, TX

Be thankful for small favors, Melissa' — At least we didn't show Meat Loaf playing a @#&!\* mandolin! —Ed.



# MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS





Brooklyn, NY resident Roberto Santiago kicks off MAD Celebrity Snaps in a big way! On the right, Roberto mugs for the camera with renowned body shop mechanic/felon Joey Buttafuoco, and on the left hobnobs with Cuban honcho Fidel Castro! You know, Joey and Fidel have a lot in common! Each has been known to enjoy a fine cigar! Both have allegedly hired others to kill on their behalf! And most recently, the two have been approached by the FOX network to star in a pilot teaming them as an unlikely pair of undercover beach detectives! Go figure!

# **LETTERS &**

# REAR VIEWS

Just thought I'd clear up a slight anatomical error in your article "Crimes of Fashion" (MAD #338). In that article, you made reference to "the dark recesses of the gluteus maximus (crack)." The "crack" between the two buttocks is actually referred to as the natal cleft. The gluteus maximus is the muscle in each buttock. Near it are the gluteus medius and the gluteus minimus. These three muscles are known as the glutei. They serve to rotate and extend the thigh.

Jacob Stulberg Brooklyn, NY

Jacob — Here's an anatomical phrase we know we're using correctly — Kiss my assi — Ed.

# PAINS IN THE "DRECK"

Congratulations on a great issue. #338 was great! Nice work on that "Latchkey Kid Magazine" feature. I did notice you slipping up a bit in your movie satire "Judge Dreck," however. In the intro, you said it took place in the 21st Century, while on page six, one of the guards says that Judge Rico escaped from prison using advanced 30th Century technology. This is impossible, especially since the movie took place in the 22nd Century!

Alex Flipse Coral Gables, FL

Alex — A good catch! We assure you, none of these mistakes would have happened if at least one member of our staff had actually seen the movie! And since you're caught up in this "century" thing, we have a few questions for you. 105 years from now, do you think the real estate company Century 2! will change its name to Century 22? Will it have to change the patches on all those real estate agents' blazers? And while they're at it, do you think they'll keep them that same repulsive mustard yellow color? Huh, Alex? Write back to us at 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 and let us know what you think! And be sure to mark your envelope Attention: Waste Basket! —Ed.

In "Judge Dreck," you have Judge Rico say that he has been impersonating Sylvester Stallone and appearing in all the flop movies that Stallone has made. Actually, Armand Assante (Judge Rico) WAS in Paradise Alley. In fact, Judge Dredd marks Assante's third movie with Stallone (he had a small role in The Lords of Flatbush). Unless Assante has an "evil clone" as well, and the clone was the one who was in Paradise Alley.

Willie Holmes Chicago, IL

Note to readers: We have two possible answers for this missive. Please check the one you prefer!

☐ Willie — Speaking of clones, why do we get the feeling that if crack forensic expert Dennis Fung cross-checked your DNA with a rock, he'd come up with a positive! —Ed. ☐ Willie — Kiss my Assante! —Ed.

# MAD MUMBLINGS

I like Alfred so much that I named my dog Harvey — Tony Olivas, Idaho Springs, CO... Why do my toes sometimes smell like bacon? — Karl Rohner, Glenn Dale, MD...I think of you every time I hurl! — Jason Clark, Santa Barbara, CA...!'m 39 and have no life. Can you tell? — Linda S. Gale, Council Bluffs, IA...Your magazine sure does taste good! — Sam Cook, Ringgold, GA...Ever notice that the word "flamingo" has never appeared on the cover or page 24 of MAD? — Douglas DeVore, Coldfoot, AK

# TOMATOES DEPARTMENT

# MAKING A COLLECTOR CALL

I'm a MAD collector and have hundreds of your magazines. I also collect other MAD stuff like shirts, games, hats, etc. (The enclosed picture of me doesn't show, but I'm also wearing a MAD watch!)

Ben Niekamp Independence, KY



Ben — Thanks for your great letter! One question — What's the name of that yahoo with the hat whose lap you're sitting on? —Ed.

# "YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER"

In issue #338, you forgot something in the article "You're a Winner and a Loser.": If you win a free one-year subscription to MAD Magazine...YOU'RE A WINNER AND A LOSER!

Jeremiah Warren Tucson, AZ

You forgot another one — If your name is Jeremiah and you live in Tucson, AZ...YOU'RE JUST A FLAT-OUT LOSER!!! —Ed.

### INSIGNIFICANT DATA

MAD #342 ON SALE DECEMBER 26!!

MAD SUPER SPECIAL # 110 ON SALE DECEMBER 26!!

Have you used your free MAD calendar yet? There's a new month full of bizarre holidays and odd images ready for downloading at the beginning of that month! Where can you find it? On America Online's DC Comics Online! Correspond with the Usual Gang of Idiots and other MAD fane, download MAD color images and text (new files all the time!) and more! All you need is a computer, modern and a major credit card or checking account! If you don't already have America Online, call 1-800-203-2600 for a FREE starter kit and 10 FREE hours!

Longtime MAD writer Dick DeBartolo will be appearing at the MID-OHIO-CON at the Hyadre Regency in Columbus, Ohio On November 25th and 25th! He'll be signing copies of his book Good Days and MAD, performing his "Backstage at MAD Magazine" slide show and passing bad checks! You've been warned on all counts!

FAX MAD AT (212) 506-4840

# ECCH RATED AVALUED THAT'S ECCH AS IN:

**ECCH-ceptionally Lame!** 

ECCH-cessively "Tasteless! ECCH-stremely Revolting!





ON SALE NOW WHEREVER ECCH-ceedingly MORONIC MAGAZINES ARE SOLD!

(Think of the future - mainly ours! Buy an ecch-stra copy!)





### LOSING YOUR LAUNCH DEPT.

The year, 1970. After a slow start, the American space program is finally in high gear, landing a man on the moon before the Russians. NASA develops a sterling reputation as the one government agency that actually get things done right. Then comes this transmission:

"Houston, we have a problem."

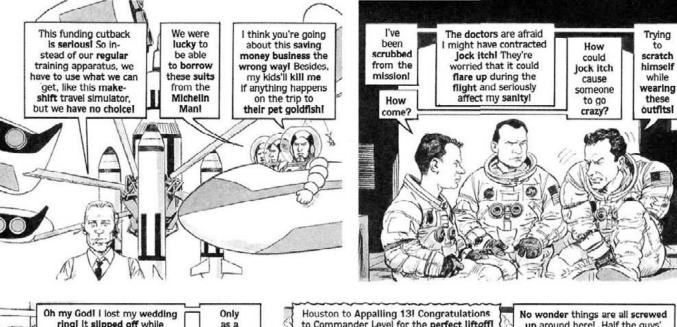
Not enough oxygen, not enough power to insure a return to Earth, and worst of all, the astronauts can't flush their own waste. The year, 1995. This gripping story is now a hit movie.

"Hollywood, we have a problem!"

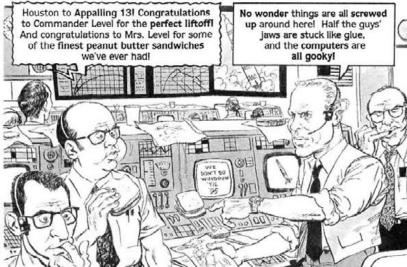
Our satire has no oxygen not enough power to sustain reader interest over five pages, and worst of all, we can't flush out a better title than...





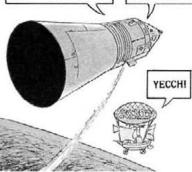








Not to worryl It all manages to float down and settle in New York City subway stationsl

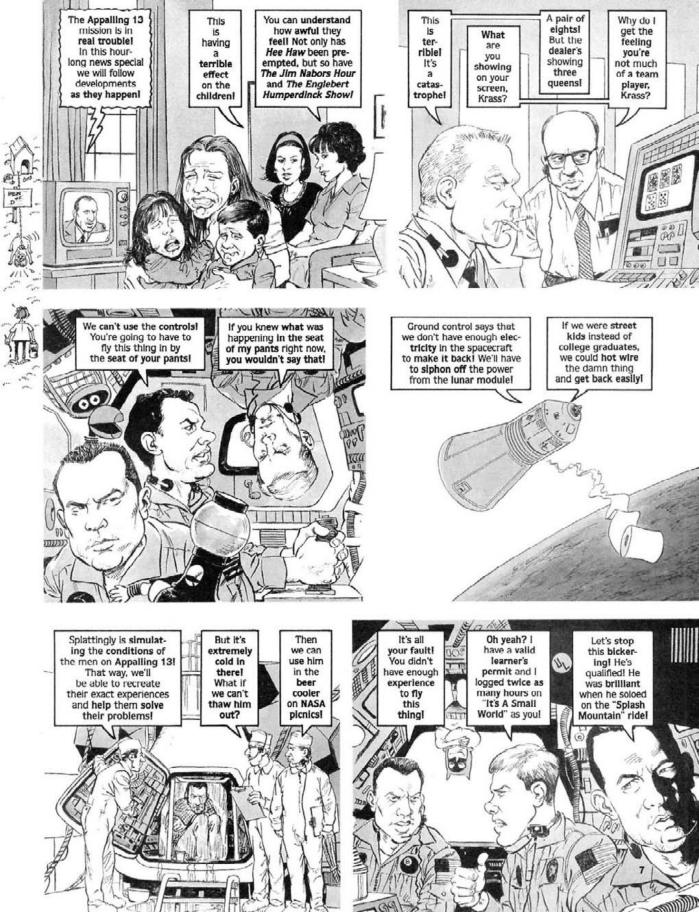


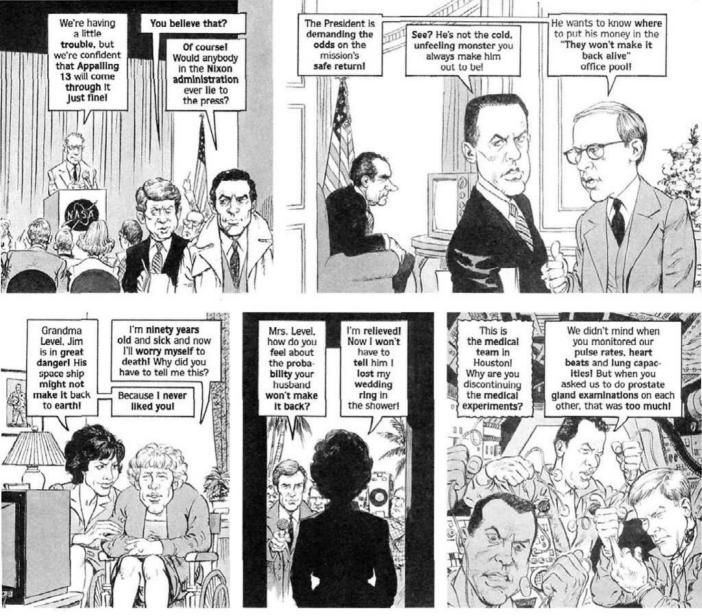
It's worse of the than you think! The oxygen tanks warranty on exploded parts and labor ran out That's yesterdayl terriblel

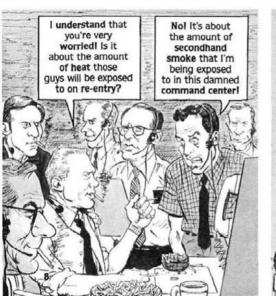
Damni One

Level to Houston! Remember when I said that people who do things second are never remembered? Like the man who landed in America after Columbus, or the guy who flew solo across the Atlantic after Lindbergh? As the secondary men on the moon, we were worried that nobody would remember us, either! Well, we just solved that problem! We'll be remembered for being the first men ever lost in space!











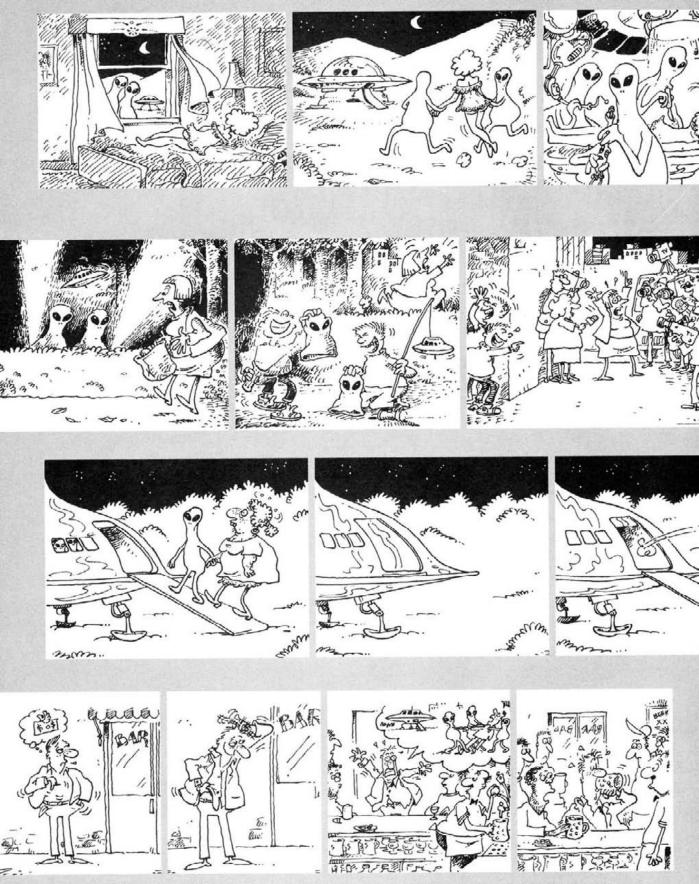


# AMAJO LOOKAT ALIEN ABDUCTIONS

ARTIST AND WRITER: SERGIO ARAGONES

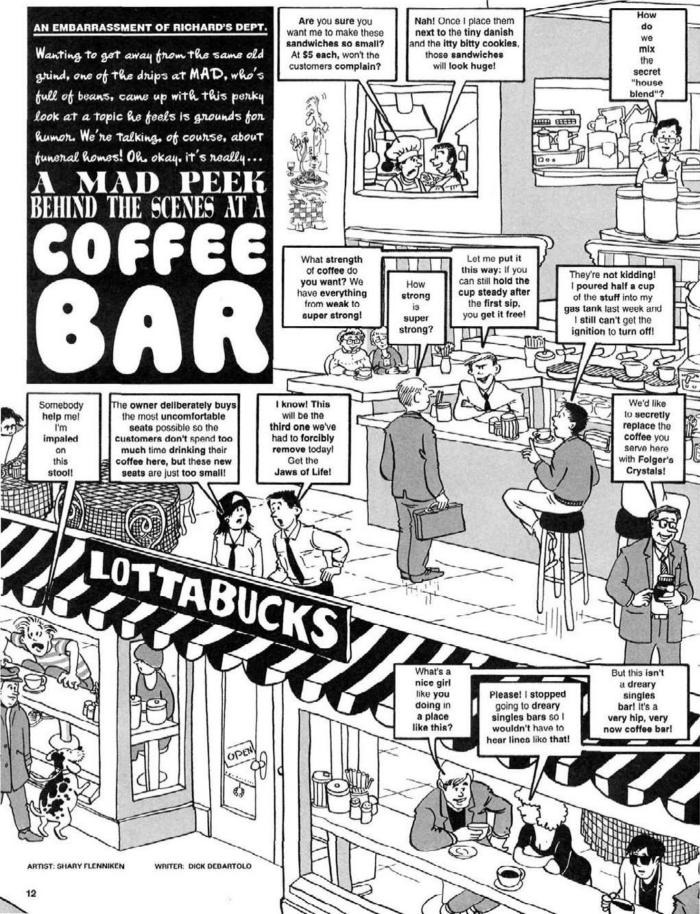


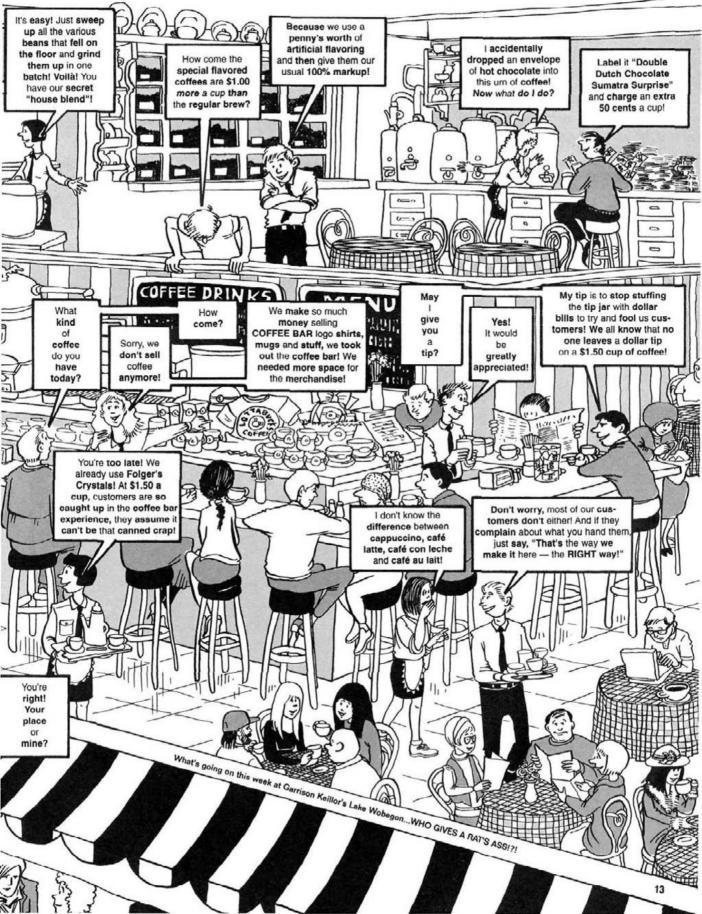




Tom Snyder's snore-infested pre-interview never-ending off-on-a-multidimensional-tangent-that-has-nothing-to-do-with-anything-anyone-on-this-particular-planet-has-even-the-slightest-measurable-interest-in drone-a-thon "anecdotes"...WHO GIVES A RAT'S ASS!?!







### WE ALL HAVE OUR BLUE CROSS TO BEAR DEPT.

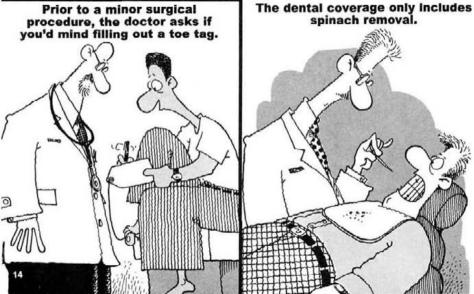
While the bozos in Washington D.C. continue prattling over health care reform, more and more Americans are turning to the wonderful world of the Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs). You know, those little companies that enable people to get somewhat adequate medical help for cheaper prices. (But you remember what your mom said about getting what you pay for, right?) With the market flooded with these organizations it can be an ordeal just choosing one, so here's MAD's sure-fire way...

# HOW TO TELL IF YOU'VE SELECTED A BAD MO

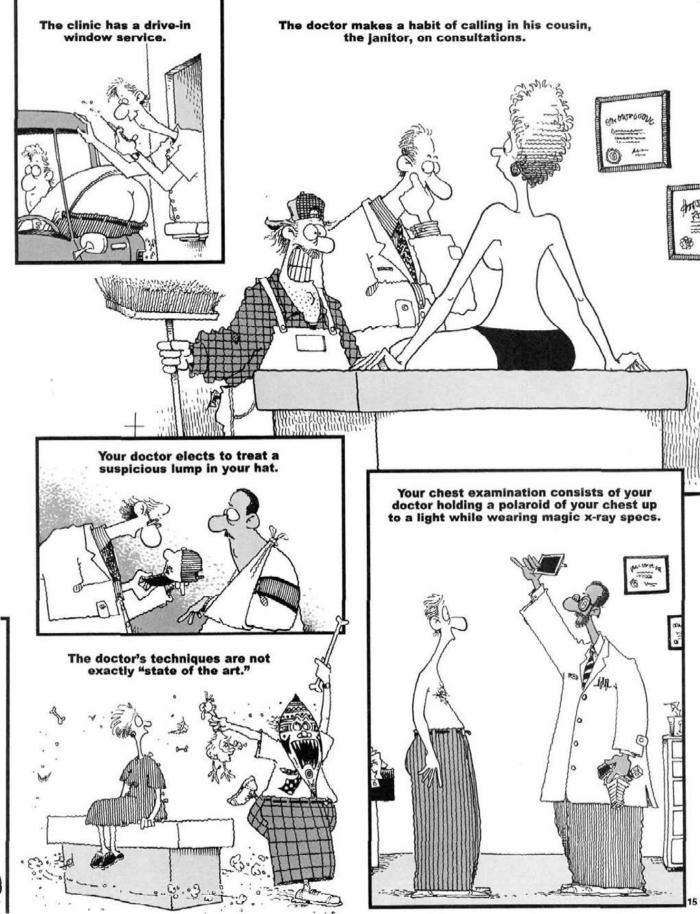
Every time the doctor writes a prescription, he brags, "I used to feed these to Elvis like they were M&Ms."



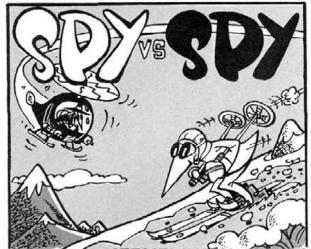


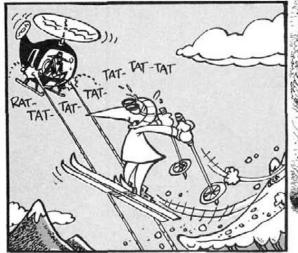


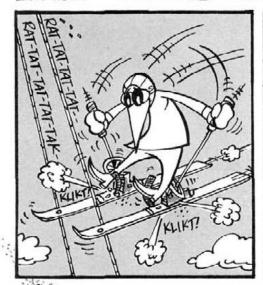


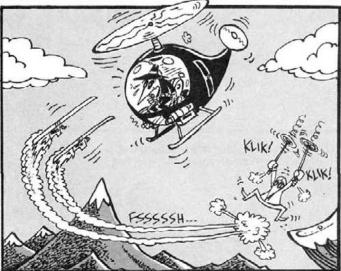


# JOKE AND DAGGER DEPT.

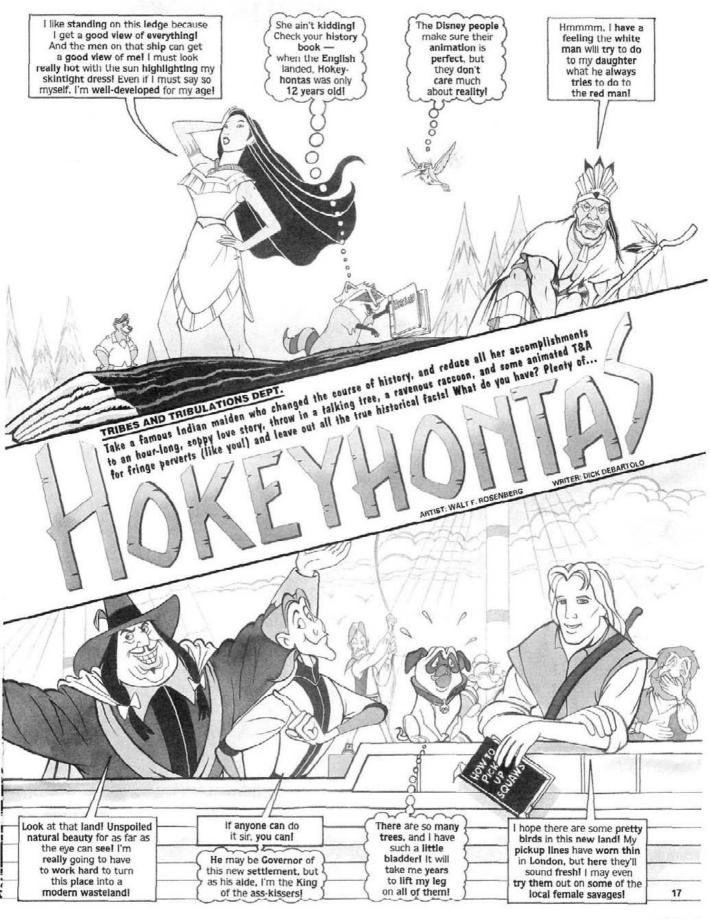


















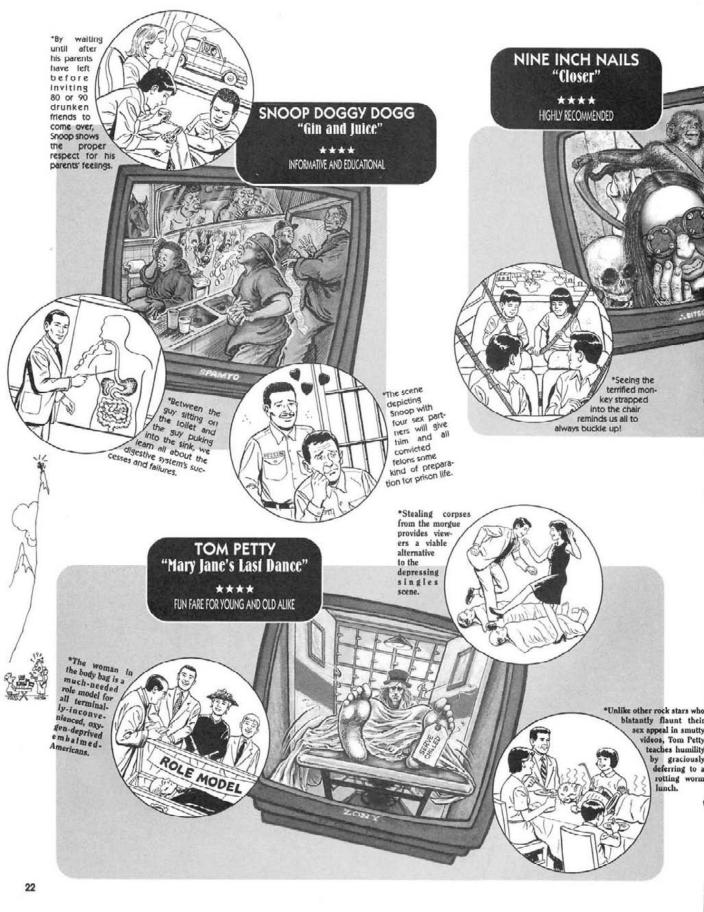
# DO THE RATE THING DEPT.

Gangsta rap! Riot Grrls! Death metall Yannil Yes, Mom and Dad, the weird world of music can be a scary place to let your kids run free. As experts from Bob Dole to Charles Manson can tell you, music can have a powerful negative effect on soft little brains. But how can a responsible parent possibly monitor a 24-hour video channel, to tell the wholesome clips from the harmful ones? The only way is to do what you've done with every other issue in your kids' lives - let someone else take charge! We at MAD are happy to offer the following examples of inspirational, decency-filled video music entertainment will keep your whelp squeaky clean, thanks to ...



# MAD's Parental Guide for Saic MTV Viewing







we probably won't live long enough to have to endure most of the degradation that is occurring. If You don't have to be a brilliant sociologist or a crusty old geezer to notice how much the world is - and not for the better! Standards are dropping drastically, everyone has lower expectations and the dark outside forces appear to be against us at every turn! On the upside, chances are changing

# you don't believe this doom & gloom assessment, read the following and see if you don't agree.





# **VIDEOS**

Turn that racket off! I can't think straight

with that horrible noise!

THE LIGHTER SIDE Of...



ARTIST AND WRITER: DAVE BERG



Noise? What are

you talking about?

This is "MTV Unplugged"!



# INNER CITIES



# TRAVEL



# **SCHOOL TESTS**





# The scent is that strong? I bought a perfume today that's going to drive my husband crazy! In the scent is that strong? I bought a perfume today that's going to drive my husband crazy! I bought a perfume today that's going to drive is that high!

# **GIFTS**



# **SETTLEMENTS**



# **FINANCE**



These charge accounts
say otherwise, my
dear! Tell you
what, if I choose a
TV commercial whose
message you can
ignore, I'll take
back what I said!



Okay,
Dad!
You've
got a
deal!
Since you're going to
meet Alice and Linda
at the mall, I choose
the American Express
credit card commercial!



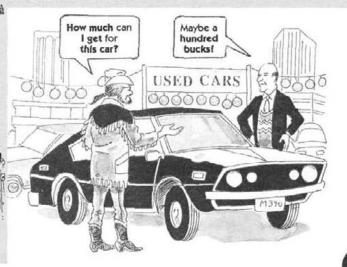


# THERAPY

Which calcified trailer trash slut claims Bill Clinton waved his winkie at her...WHO GIVES A RATS ASSIR!



# RELATIVITY



Only a hundred? How do you calculate how much a car is worth?

We price cars according to current street value! If a car was parked in a desolate area, unlocked and with the key in the ignition, how long would it take to be stolen? In your case, from a year to never!

Believe me, at a hundred bucks, I'm being very generous, my friend!



# THE OFFICE



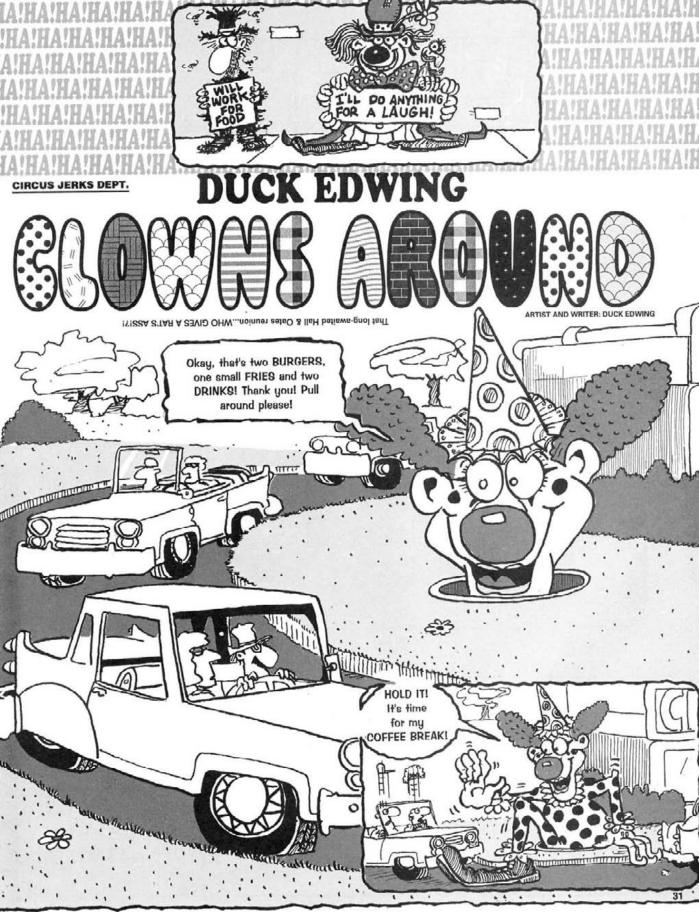
# **EXCEPTIONS**



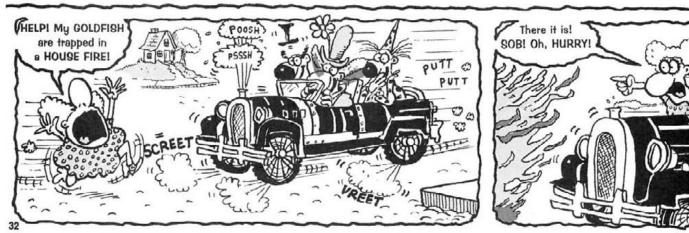
# **DOCTORS**

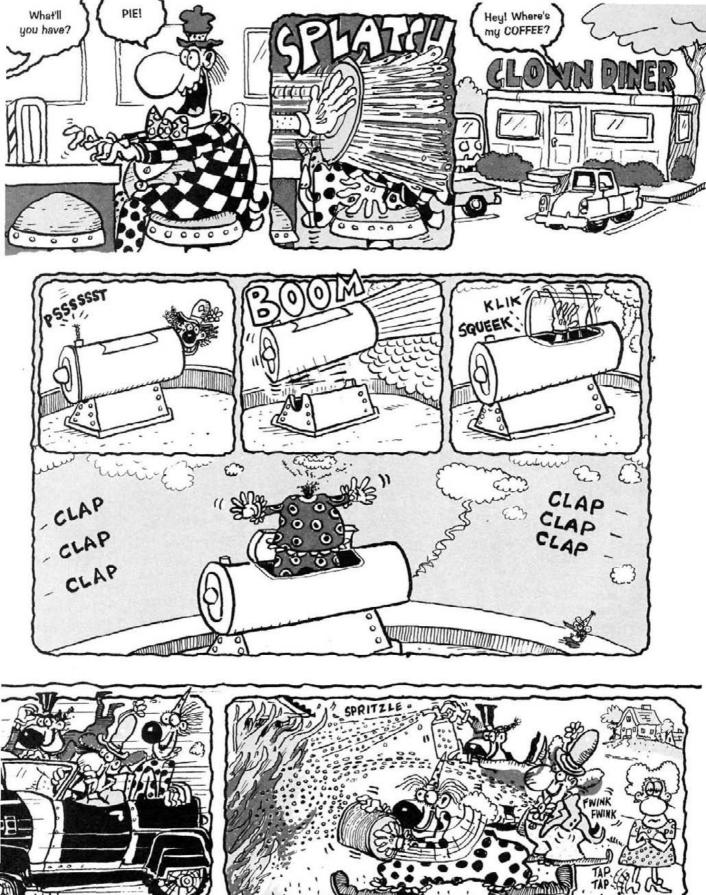












# A BAD CASE OF THE RERUNS DEPT.

What do you do if you're a 24-hour Cable TV network whose target audience's bedtime is 9 P.M.? Well, if you're NICKELODEON, you fill those odd hours with crappy old re-runs, call it NICK AT NITE and try to suck in as many addle-brained couch
py old re-runs, call it NICK AT NITE and try to suck in as many addle-brained couch
potatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "special event" programpotatoes as you can by "re-packaging" the sludge into "sp





you never suspected ... but you should havel

PROGRAMMING.



if they're divisible by two -- we got 'eml

ARTIST: DREW FRIEDMAN WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

# Monkees episodes where you can really tell they're not playing their own instruments!



Mike not playing the guitarl Peter not playing the bassl Mickey not playing the drums! Davy not playing the tambersine!

# The "Joe Friday tells off a hippie" episodes of Dragnetl



You draft-dodging, pot smoking, hippine punkl You'll get the chair for this





Every Star Trek Episodel Every T.J.

Hooker Episodel Every Rescue 911

Episodel Plus -- dozens of over-thetop" guest appearances on other shows!

Can you endure the entire week?



catch them all...Before they "went bad"!

Racist stereotypes from our TV
past that'd get your FCC License
revoked todayl



Our most Politically-incorrect
Marathon everl watch it
...just don't tell anyone you didl

It's the "Battle of the pint-sized black kids adopted by rich white people"!



webster us. Arnold (of Diff'rent Strokes)

6:00 WEBSTER

7:30 DIFF'RENT STROKES

8:00 WEBSTER

7:00 WEBSTER

8:30 DIFF'RENT STROKES

THE JETSONS:

Contemporary cartoon

family in the future

### Old Tv series with exact opposite premises

BEVERLY HALBALIES: country folks move to the





ALL IN THE FAMILY: Right-wing parent; liberal kids FAMILY TIES: Liberal parents; right-ring kid



THE FLINTSTONES: contemporary contoon family in the past



LOST IN SPACE: Humans in space trying to return to Earth My FAVORITE MARTIAN: Alien on Earth trying to return to space



### BUMP ON A LOGIC DEPT.

As all astute MAD readers will recall, a few issues back we took it upon ourselves (as we often do!) to modernize those lovable, though hopelessly outdated, "that makes about as much sense" wisecracks. You know the ones we mean-"That makes about as much sense as a pickpocket at a nudist colony." Snide? Certainly! But hardly au courant! That's where we come in (fa fa fa!) with a new twist on an old twist! Yes, it's biting, it's relevant, it's two lousy pages of...

### **"MAKES ABOUT AS MUCH** EQUIVALENCY CI

(PART TWO)

Watching the Home Shopping Network...



.. going to a mall and just staring into the "Overpriced Junk Jewelry Shoppe" for hours!





Getting contraceptive advice from your priest...

Lugging around a "portable" stereo the size of a coffee table...





...having John Gotti pick his own jury!



### THE SENSE" IART

ARTIST: RICK TULKA

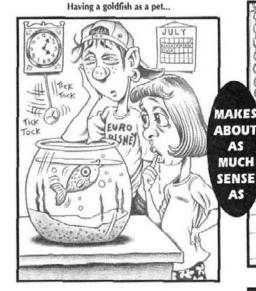
WRITER: MIKE SNIDER



...asking the Surgeon General to recommend a good cigarette!



...playing piano in a marching band!





Hoping to see Shaq win a Grammy...





... having a nun as a girlfriend!

...waiting for the Chicago Bulls to draft Danny DeVito! 37

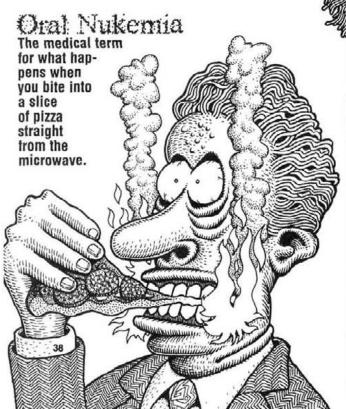
### ACHES AND BANES DEPT.

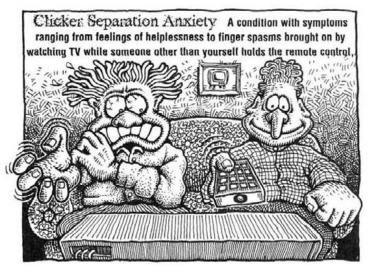
It is commonly accepted among ignoramuses everywhere that humankind forever moves forward in the name of "progress." But what is "progress" anyway, huh? Personal computers? Not when you consider carpal tunnel syndrome. ATM's? Not when you consider everyone who's been held-up at gun point at 24-hour banking centers. Nuclear energy? You must be joking! Now some creep named Nekpar can build a bomb in his backyard and blow up the entire Western Hemisphere! Our point is simple: for every "progressive" action there is a disastrous reaction. Yes, we pay a heavy price indeed for "progress." And to belabor this point senselessly, here's...

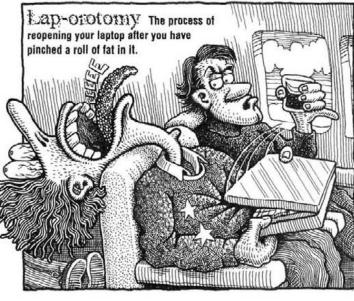
# MODERN Works in the second sec

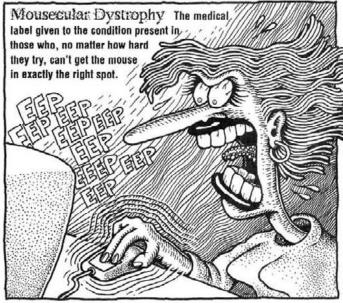
ARTIST: MONTE WOLVERTON

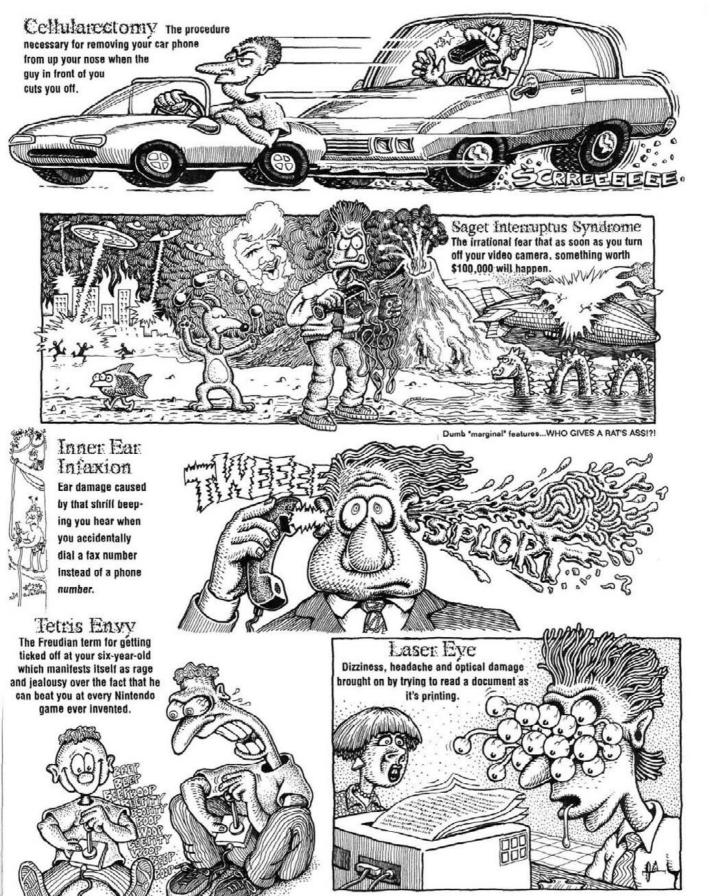
WRITER: DAVID CONNOR

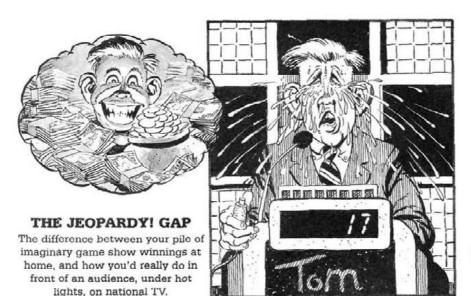












### A PAIN IN THE CREVASSE DEPT.

Through the years there have been many gaps. For Instance, the Generation Gap (where you think the mueic of today is absolutely fabulous and your parents think it's noise). The Budget Gap (the amount between what you spend every month and what you earn). The Credibility Gap (what Newt Gingrich says and what he really means). And the Baby Gap (which is a great store for yupples to buy clothes for their kids, but it has nothing to do with this article)! But that ain't all, folke! There are some darn major gaps that have been missed completely! So, before that gap in your head gets even wider here's MAD's list of some...

### RA: NO: G:

ARTIST: GEORGE WOODBRIDGE



### THE SIMON & SCHUSTER GAP

The difference between the cash advance paid to the professor who's slaved for 35 years on his manuscript about the geopolitical causes for global recession, and how much they bid for the secrets of Amy Fisher's orthodontist.



### THE ARENA ROCK GAP

The difference between the eardrum-blastin' CD you listen to at home, and that same singer live on stage, without echo, reverb, 64-track recording or an overdub deck.



### THE HARLEQUIN GAP

The difference between the swept-away passion that burns like wildfire in romance novels, and enduring the sweaty fumblings of some teenage stud with all the lasting power of a fuel-injected funny car.



### THE VACATION GAP

the difference between the picturesque charm of our travel brochure, and the current reality after the civil war you never noticed on page 42 of your newspaper last month.

### THE HARD DRIVE GAP

The difference between all the time you'll save with your new ultra-powerful computer, and how much of that extra time you'll waste just playing stupid computer games.

### ZELY ICED PS

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

### THE MENU GAP

The difference between the sumptuous photo of your meal that you see when ordering, and the actual dish that shows up.





### RARELY NOTICED GAPS





### THE STEINBRENNER GAP

The difference between the beloved

"hometown image" sports team owners talk about whenever they want a rent-free stadium, and how quickly they'd pack up and haul ass to the next beloved hometown that tops the current offer.



### THE TEXTBOOK GAP

The difference between how much your college bookstore charges you for your textbooks in September, and how much they say your books are worth when you sell them back four months later.



### THE YEARBOOK GAP

The difference between the regular way you looked during the other 1,459 days of high school, and the way you looked the day they took your photo.





# EXPERT AUTO REPAIR

### THE GOODWRENCH GAP

The difference between how much a mechanic charges when you tell him that your intake valve stems are probably frayed, and how much he charges when you tell him there's an "unkitaunkita" sound in your car's tummy.

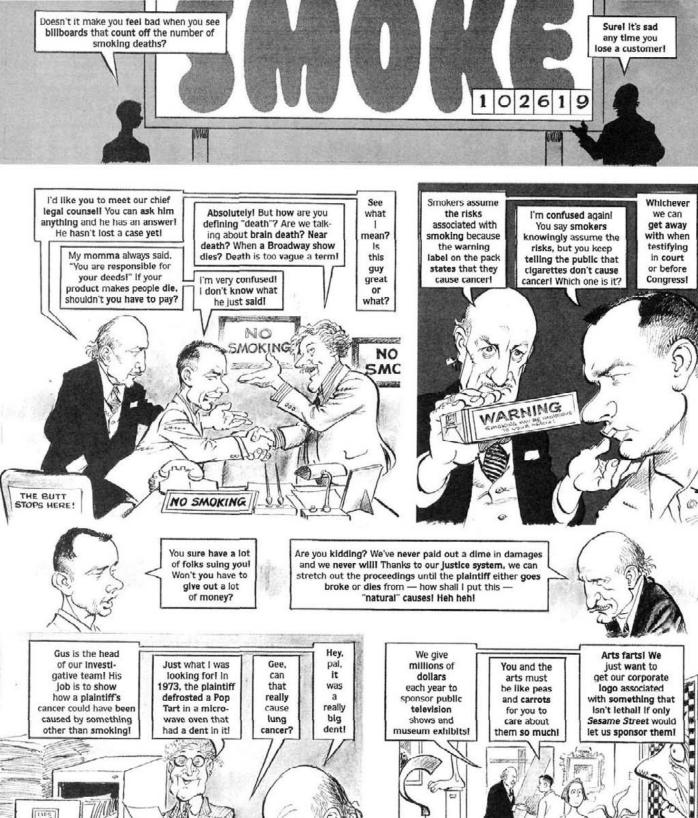


### CHOKE AND GAGGERS DEPT.

For years, the tobacco companies have been getting away with murder! But with a bunch of huge lawsuits pending, they're suddenly on the defensive, and we had some tough questions for them! They agreed to let us interview one of their executives, but only if we allowed them to pick the interviewer! We had no choice but to go along!

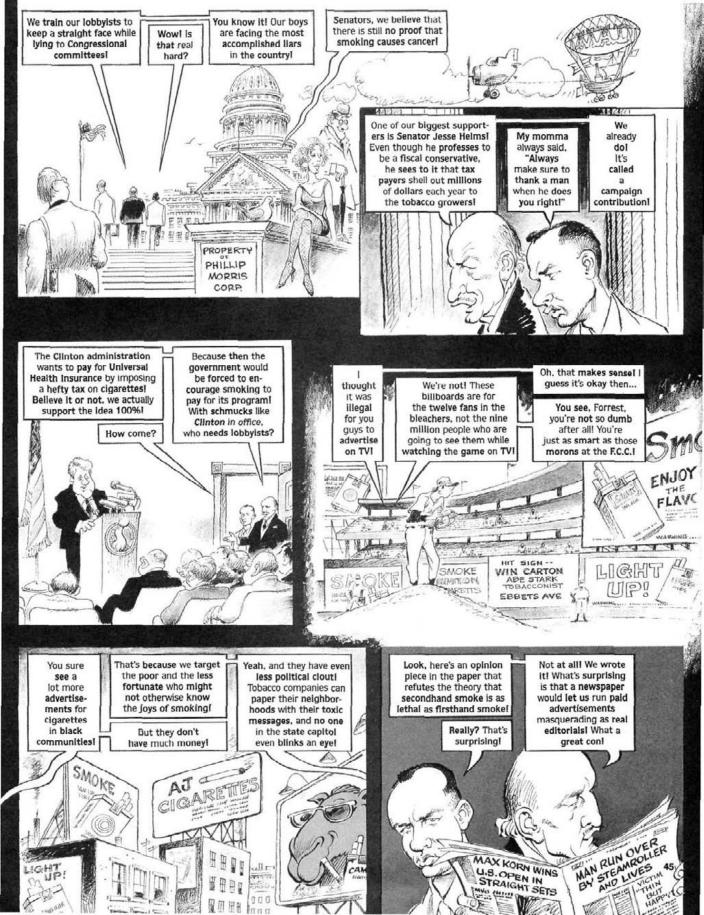
## INTERVIEWS THE TOBACCO EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR





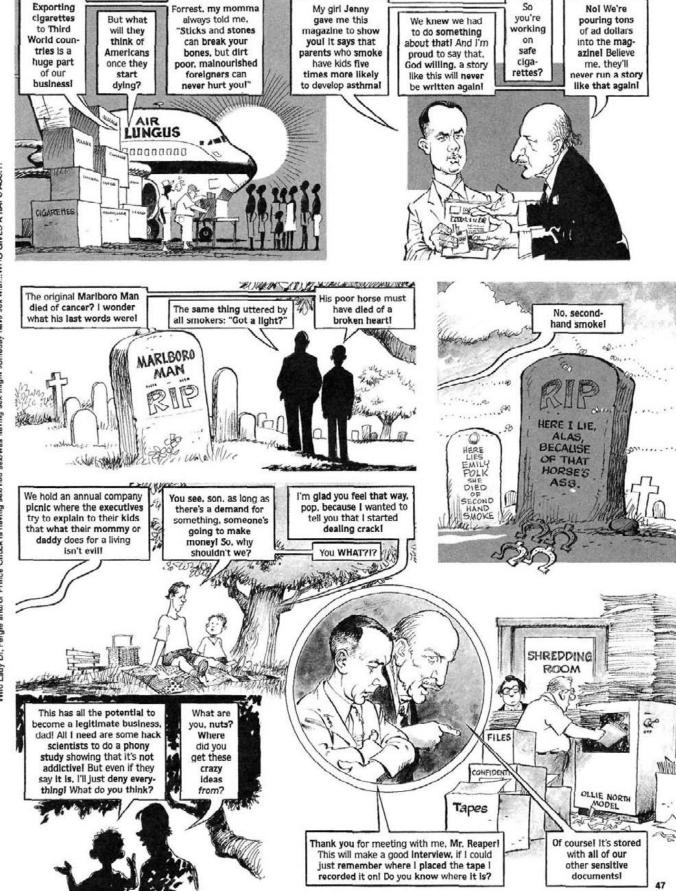












### STOP THE PRESTIDIGITATIONS DEPT.

According to legend, magician Harry Houdini was able to escape from a box wrapped in chains and submerged in the icy depths of any ocean or river! Prestidigitator David Copperfield once made the Statue of Liberty disappear in front of a TV audience of millions! And illusionist Bill Clinton convinced a gaggle of news reporters that he smoked pot without inhaling! All pretty cool tricks, but not nearly as amazing as these...

### Magic Tricks in Sveryday Life

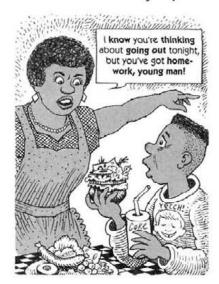
ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

WRITER: DARREN JOHNSON

### The Amazing Linking Coat Hangers



The Miracle Mental Telepathy Mom



The Mysterious Electric Cord Knot



The Stupefying Vanishing Coin



The Incredible Shrinking Cup



The Baffling Concealed Cigarette



WHAT DO AMERICANS HAVE TO BE TRULY THANKFUL FOR THIS THANKSGIVING?

### HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

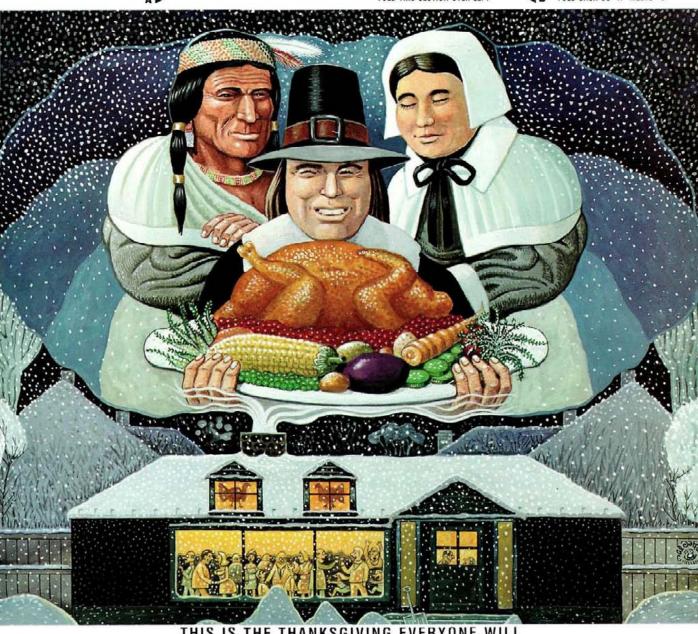
Of all the major holidays, Thanksgiving is truly one of the most enjoyable. You don't have to spend a ton of money on gifts and it unites everyone to be thankful for one thing or another. To find out what will bring joy to us all this Thanksgiving, fold page as shown.



A

FOLD THIS SECTION OVER LEFT

■B FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"



THIS IS THE THANKSGIVING EVERYONE WILL
FIND A WHOLE LOT TO BE GRATEFUL FOR. YES, REALLY,
THE ENTIRE SUMMER WAS DREARY AS FOLKS GREW TIRED OF
THE BORING EVENTS THAT WERE AVAILABLE. THIS PHASEBAD AS IT WAS--ENDED BY NOVEMBER. WE CAN ALL
SIGH WITH RELIEF AND CELEBRATE WITH GOOD REASON

